years, year-wise and the orders finally executed during such period;

(c) The investment required for modernisation of BEL; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the company has the potential to manufacture colour TV picture tubes; if so, the limitations with Government in allowing company to do so?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) The overall order book position of Bharat Electronics Limited has improved, although orders for sound and vision broadcasting equipment have declined due to limited expansion of Radio Network.

(b) the details of orders received for Defence and Sound & Vision equipment in the last three years and supplies made are as below:

	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
	(Value in Crores of Rupees)		
All orders at beginning of the year	1594	1964	2287 2388*
Orders at the beginning of the year			
Defence	1463	1854	2216
Sound & Vision	62	41	19 17*
Orders received during the year	900	1051	458*
Defence	64	56	20*
Sound & Vision			
Supplies made during the year	509	689	322*
Defence	85	78	22*
Sound & Vision			

*Figures as on 31.1.1997

(c) Modernisation is a continuous process. However no specific investment is required in the context of current range of orders.

(d) Yes, Sir. However investment decisions are made in the context of existing capacity in the country and having regard to whether this line of manufacture is in line with the objectives and growth strategy of BEL as a Defence Production Undertaking.

Operational deficiency of Bofors gun

1820. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 400-odd "shoot and scoot" Bofors guns which were riddled with operational deficiencies, are in a critical state without enough spares and ammunition; and if so, the reaction of Government in regard thereto;

(b) whether Government had paid 8.4 million kroners to AB Bofors for supplying spares for the Howitzer guns in 1986; and

(c) if so, whether any step was taken to reopen negotiations with Bofors for making good the credit lying with them for more than a decade; and if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. 8.41 billion Swedish kroners was the total contractual value for 400 numbers of Guns, Ammunition and support equipment including spares. 20% of the amount was paid in advance. 80% was paid against delivered stores through credit made available by a Swedish Bank under a separate Agreement. The credit is being repaid to the Bank in instalments.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Arms export by US to India

1821. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the US arms manufacturing firms are required to

take approval of the US State Department before they can export arms or other defence material to India;

(b) whether it has affected the modernisation programme of our defence forces; and

(c) The steps taken to ensure that our defence forces do not suffer from shortage of modern weaponry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The restrictive nature of these laws is taken into account by us in our overall plans for the modernisation of our Armed Forces. Efforts are made on a continuning basis to overcome the hurdles imposed on our modernisation plans through the export control laws of other countries.

(c) DRDO is undertaking many programmes for developing State-of-Art weapons and equipment for the Armed Forces. Defence Production Units also undertake indigenous production wherever considered appropriate. Even when weapons and equipment are imported to caterto urgent requirement of the Armed Forces, the question of indigenous production and transfer of technology is considered. Wherever considered necessary and feasible, such technologies are also obtained for indigenous production.

सभी रक्षा कार्यालयों में नेताजी के चित्र का लगाया जाना

1822. **श्रीमती मालती शर्मा:** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या उनके मंत्रालय ने नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस की जन्मशती के अवसर पर अपने सभी कार्यालयों में उनके चित्र लगाने का निर्णय लिया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

रक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एन० वी० एन० सोमू): (क) से (ग) जी, नहीं। रक्षा मंत्रालय ऐसे मामलों में सभी सरकारी कार्यालयों के लिए निर्णय नहीं लेता है।

सेना में, मौजूदा अनुदेशों के अनुसार, सीनियर कमांडरों के कतिपय श्रेणियों के अलावा, केवल निम्नलिखित विशिष्ट व्यक्तियों के चित्र विभिन्न यूनिटों के परिसरों में लगाए जाते हैं:—

(क) महात्मा गांधी
(ख) राष्ट्रपति
(ग) प्रधान मंत्री
(घ) रक्षा मंत्री

Acquisition of remotely piloted aircraft from Israel

1823. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has finalised acquisition of remotely piloted aircraft from Israel;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions of the agreement; and

(c) by when the aircraft is likely to join the Indian Air Force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Laying of roads by Border Roads Organisation

1824. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Border Road Organisation is laying roads in the forest areas of the naxalite-infested districts of North Telangana and Dandakaranya regions;

(b) the objectives of the programme; and

(c) the target set up and progress made in laying the roads in the areas